

**HIGHLAND MAIN STREET MEETING**  
**Highland Town Hall- Highland, Indiana 46322**  
**DECEMBER 1, 2016 MINUTES**

**Call to Order**

At 6:34 PM, the Highland Main Street (HMS) meeting was called to order by President Dawn Diamantopoulos at Highland Town Hall, 3333 Ridge Road in Highland, Indiana.

**Roll Call:**

The following members of the 2016 Highland Main Street Board were present: Dawn Diamantopoulos, Marie Russo, Marion Case, and Redevelopment Director Cecile Petro. Mario DeGeorge, Dan Dunn, Tracy Oprea, Alicia Rosignol, Julie Larson, and Jen Duncan were absent.

**Minutes:**

Minutes from the March 3, 2016, April 7, 2016, May 5, 2016, June 2, 2016, July 7, 2016, September 1, 2016, October 13, 2016, and November 3, 2016 meetings were not approved due to the lack of a quorum.

**Town Theatre**

Cecile reported that the bid package for rehabbing the Town Theatre will be sent out in December and bids will be received in January 2017. A presentation to the Town Council will be made some time in January 2017. Marion will continue his work on the Volunteer Committee.

**Explorer's Group**

Dawn reported that there will be an open forum this weekend to hear stories from those who remember the Town Theatre in some way. The Explorers will be meeting with them to record their recollections. A volunteer will be contacted to review the membership forms and volunteer lists to gather other names for the Explorers to contact.

**Festival of the Trail**

No report.

**Façade Improvement Grant**

Cecile will send out a listing of all the façade grants that have been completed or in process to date.

**Art & Cultural District Plan**

Cecile stated that she and SEH plan to meet with the Northwest Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC) to access any funding grants for the area, if they are available. NIRPC (with INDOT funds) was the funding source for the Art & Cultural District Plan.

**Sculpture and Art Tour of Highland**

Cecile stated that she will talk to the owner on the east side of the mural (2825 Jewett) to see if he/she will agree to place a mural on their west wall. The owner to the west of the mural has already agreed. The Redevelopment Commission's attorney will be writing an agreement with the owners to utilize their building for that purpose.

### **Poet Laureate**

On December 18<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM, Lily Rex, the Poet Laureate will host a “Good Beer, Bad Poetry” event at Brew Fest on Kennedy Avenue. The group decided to schedule a call out for the next Poet Laureate in March 2017.

### **Farmers’ Market Musicians**

Marie recommended to the Redevelopment Commission to fund the musicians for the Farmers’ Market in 2017. Marion seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote. The Parks Department will change their Market Day to Wednesday evening in 2017.

### **Highland Main Street Ordinance**

The group considered these changes in the ordinance:

1. Under Membership, keep a minimum of seven appointments; however, leave out an upper limit.
2. Under Membership, eliminate the required appointments to HMS from the Chamber of Commerce, Economic Development Commission, Redevelopment Commission, and the Town Council.
3. Under Quorum, substitute “majority of those present” instead of a majority of members.

Dawn asked all members to review the ordinance, send other suggestions through email to Cecile, and be prepared to vote on these and any other changes that the membership deems applicable to the functioning of HMS at the next meeting.

### **Municipal Parking Lot**

The group discussed the plantings that were designed by Theresa Pecsek for the municipal parking lot on the southwest corner of Highway and Kennedy Avenues. They would like to have some of the plantings completed in the spring of 2017. Cecile will contact the Public Works Department to see if their contractor could plant and maintain that area, if the Commission will provide the funds for the plants.

### **Discussion**

None.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:23 PM.